METHOD FOR PROVIDING CUSTOM FIT THERAPEUTIC FOOTWEAR

JY 5

This is a Continuation-In-Part (CIP) of my co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 09/976,071, which was filed on October 15, 2001 and a Notice of Allowance was NOW about issued on September 8, 2003.

Field of the Invention

This invention relates to a method of remotely fitting therapeutic footwear and manufacturing custom molded inserts with accommodations to meet the needs of diabetics and other individuals with a need for custom fit therapeutic shoes and inserts, and to custom fit therapeutic inserts.

BACKGROUND FOR THE INVENTION

15

20

10

Podiatrists and other licensed professional practitioners such as orthotists and pedorthotists have for some years provided therapeutic footwear for diabetics and other patients with a need for custom fitted therapeutic shoes and inserts. However, such practices have often proven unsatisfactory, time consuming and frequently less profitable than desired. The problem is that the practice is time consuming and frequently results in inconsistencies and poorly fitting shoes and inserts, a necessity to replace poorly fitting shoes and more recently to comply with the requirements of Medicare and other health care providers.

25

It is also common practice for licensed professional practitioners to measure a patient's foot, make a mold of a lower portion of the foot and ask a laboratory or manufacturer to make a custom fit therapeutic insert for placement in a shoe. Such laboratories typically work with a mold of a patient's foot, form a plaster cast from the

30